The Submission of the Will: The Way to Christlikeness

This is the only path, the only way that leads us to likeness with Christ in all aspects of our lives. A new authentic beginning to be like Christ can only be achieved through the submission of the will, as it is written in Romans 6:22: “But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.”

When we voluntarily submit our will to God, we enter into a relationship of profound submission and dedication. We do not see ourselves as partners or collaborators, but as beings who admire and appreciate so much the One who guides them that they completely surrender to the divine will. This gesture of dedicating oneself as a servant to Christ reflects total love and dedication to God, marking the beginning of a profound spiritual journey towards transformation and sanctification.

Offering oneself as a “servant” to someone is defined in the dictionary as the act of completely and servilely submitting one’s own will to the will of another.

The Son of God is the prototype after which we must be modeled. He chose to live on earth in the total humility of a servant, dedicating Himself completely to the will of the Heavenly Father, as Philippians 2:5,7 urges us: “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant.”

When we contemplate His life as that of a servant or slave, we observe that He lived in a total and voluntary obedience to the perfect will of the Father.

It is impressive to reflect on the fact that someone so great voluntarily chose to submit His will to His Father.

In all His actions, the Son of God never followed His own initiative but was always guided by the Father’s perfect commands, in complete obedience. This attitude of total submission, specific to a servant, was the principle that guided Him and asks us to adopt it as well.

Although He had a divine nature, He did not consider equality with God as something to be grasped, but He humbled Himself, choosing to live as a servant, submitting to the Heavenly Father even to death on the cross. This represents the supreme essence of humility and submission, being a model we are called to follow in our spiritual journey. By adopting this attitude, the Son showed that only in this way is it possible to live in

rest and inner peace.

Our process of spiritual transformation, which consists of being molded after Christ, begins with our decision to relinquish our own opinions and allow ourselves to be molded. This implicitly leads to the voluntary submission of the will and acceptance of the status of a servant to God. Fulfilling the commandments with this status is vital for character transformation after Christ's.

He calls us to follow His example, to submit our will in obedience, as He Himself did. Only if we assume the role of devoted servants in our relationship with God will we gradually evolve towards perfecting our character, inspired by the example of Lord Jesus.

This servant-master relationship model is vital in the transformation process. The process of molding after Christ is so perfect that it is essential to completely dedicate ourselves to reach His spiritual stature.

This acts as a key that opens the way for us to a thorough and complete transformation in Christ, allowing us to adopt all His perfect values and principles down to the smallest details.

The one who discovers in the Lord Jesus the embodiment of perfection and perfect beauty, like a pearl of great price, will have a deep admiration for Him. This deep admiration will motivate us to aspire to be like Him, to renounce our self, to submit and offer ourselves as servants.

Total and unconditional love is the only thing that determines us to willingly offer ourselves as servants, without constraint. This submission of the will, along with the other three essential traits (self-denial, humility, godliness), is the only option that will help us adjust our traits, building the image of the Lord in us, in all details.

Only those who are captivated by the character traits of Lord Jesus and willingly submit their will come to know peace and holiness and, ultimately, eternal life.

It is vital to understand that all the Lord's commandments are a faithful reflection of His character, showing us how He lived and His ways. Each of His teachings hides a trait of the Lord, similar to how a person's physical traits are hidden in their embryo (The seed is the Word of God. Luke 8:11).

If we truly desire to have the character traits of Lord Jesus, then His commandments must be a delight for us. We will love these commandments and fulfill them with joy, like an obedient servant, and thus we will come to be like Him (I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold. Psalm 119:127).

Thus, it is important to self-evaluate: Do we consider His teachings as essential in the transformation process? Do we desire to keep His commandments as a servant, and have a relationship of obedience to Him, as He had to His Father?

This post is an excerpt from the booklet "The Purpose of Life", which you can read in full, free of charge. More studies and resources for spiritual awakening are available at https://www.unmodifiedword.com.